

CLAIMS

1. An information management method comprising:
invoking a client environment hosted on a client machine;
5 registering the client environment with a discovery machine coupled
to the client machine by a network;
registering a server machine coupled to the network with the
discovery machine;
registering a host environment of the client environment on the server
10 machine with the discovery machine upon an indication that the server
machine has a communication for the client environment;
establishing a direct link between the client machine and the server
machine; and
delivering the communication from the server machine to the client
15 machine.

2. An information management method as recited in claim 1
wherein the host environment of the client environment on the server
machine maintains a logon service.

3. An information management method as recited in claim 2
wherein a successful login via the logon service is dictated by a set of
member credentials.

4. An information management method as recited in claim 1
wherein the host environment of the client environment on the server
machine determines access to a piece of information via a set of rules.

5. An information management method as recited in claim 1 wherein the host environment of the client environment on the server machine maintains a list of available information.

5 6. An information management method as recited in claim 5 wherein the host environment of the client environment on the server machine maintains a list of owners of the list of available information and a list of locations of available information.

10 7. An information management method as recited in claim 6 wherein the host environment of the client environment on the server machine determines who to send an update of the piece of information by accessing the list of owners of the list of available information.

15 8. An information management method as recited in claim 1 wherein the client environment hosted on the client machine maintains a list of rules that determines access to a piece of information via a set of rules.

20 9. An information management method as recited in claim 1 wherein the discovery machine has an event handler that processes an event.

10. An information management method as recited in claim 9 wherein the event handler processes at least one of a register event, an unregister event, a send/post event, a request event or a raise event.

25 11. An information management method as recited in claim 10 wherein the register event invokes a request authentication process.

12. An information management method as recited in claim 10 wherein the request event invokes a credential verification process.

13. An information management method as recited in claim 12
5 wherein the credential verification process also includes a request handling process.

14. An information management method as recited in claim 13
10 wherein the request handling process also includes a decrypted request handling process.

15. An information management method as recited in claim 14 wherein the decrypted request handling process processes at least one of a retrieve all request type, a get count/list request type, a retrieve one(s)
15 request type and a retrieve filtered request type.

16. An information management method as recited in claim 10 wherein the unregister event invokes a request authentication process.

20 17. An information management method as recited in claim 10 wherein the raise event invokes a second event handler.

18. An information management method as recited in claim 17 wherein the second event handler processes at least one of a life expiration
25 event, timeout event or an error event.

19. An information management method as recited in claim 1 wherein the client machine and the server machine is comprised of a user interface services, a common services, an environment cache, an environment handle and a transport/communications.

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20. An information management method as recited in claim 19 wherein the transport/communications processes event types via an event handler.

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21. An information management method as recited in claim 20 wherein the event handler processes at least one of a go online type, a registration required type, an unregistration required type, a send/post type or an external event type.

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22. An information management method as recited in claim 19 wherein the common services coordinates a selection of a proper environment.

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23. An information management system comprising:
a plurality of client machines, each of which are coupled to a network, that host a plurality of client environments;
a plurality of server machines, each of which are coupled to the network, that host a plurality of host client environments;
a plurality of discovery machines, each of which are coupled to the network, which facilitates a connection between a single client environment and a single host client environment for the transfer of information.

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24. An information management system as recited in claim 23 wherein the plurality of host client environments have a logon service.

25. An information management system as recited in claim 24 wherein a successful login via the logon service is dictated by a set of member credentials.

26. An information management system as recited in claim 23 wherein the plurality of host client environments determines access to a piece of information via a set of rules.

27. An information management system as recited in claim 23 wherein the plurality of host client environments maintain a list of available information.

28. An information management system as recited in claim 27 wherein the plurality of host client environments maintain a list of owners of the list of available information and a list of locations of available information.

29. An information management system as recited in claim 28 wherein the plurality of host client environments determine who to send an update of the piece of information by accessing the list of owners of the list of available information.

30. An information management system as recited in claim 23 wherein the single client environment maintains a list of rules that determines access to a piece of information via a set of rules.

5 31. An information management system as recited in claim 23 wherein the plurality of discovery machines have an event handler that processes an event.

10 32. An information management system as recited in claim 31 wherein the event handler processes at least one of a register event, an unregister event, a send/post event, a request event or a raise event.

15 33. An information management system as recited in claim 32 wherein the register event invokes a request authentication process.

34. An information management system as recited in claim 32 wherein the request event invokes a credential verification process.

20 35. An information management system as recited in claim 34 wherein the credential verification process also includes a request handling process.

25 36. An information management system as recited in claim 35 wherein the request handling process also includes a decrypted request handling process.

37. An information management system as recited in claim 36 wherein the decrypted request handling process processes at least one of a retrieve all request type, a get count/list request type, a retrieve one(s) request type and a retrieve filtered request type.

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38. An information management system as recited in claim 32 wherein the unregister event invokes a request authentication process.

39. An information management system as recited in claim 32 wherein the raise event invokes a second event handler.

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40. An information management system as recited in claim 39 wherein the second event handler processes at least one of a life expiration event, timeout event or an error event.

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41. An information management system as recited in claim 23 wherein the plurality of client machines and the plurality of server machines are comprised of a user interface services, a common services, an environment cache, an environment handle and a transport/communications.

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42. An information management system as recited in claim 41 wherein the transport/communications processes event types via an event handler.

43. An information management system as recited in claim 42 wherein the event handler processes at least one of a go online type, a

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